

# The Brethren Evangelist.

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## The Testimony of Miracles.

Holy Son of God most high,  
Clothed in heavenly majesty!  
Many a miracle and sign,  
In Thy Father's name divine.  
Manifested forth Thy might  
In the chosen people's sight.  
But, O Saviour! not alone  
Thus Thy glory was made known.  
Kindly human wants relieving,  
Gently with the mourner grieving,  
Far Thy matchless power above  
Stands the witness of Thy love.  
Thou, who by the open grave,  
Ere Thy voice was raised to save,  
Didst with those fond sisters shed  
Tears above the faithful dead;  
Even Thy word of might appears  
Less resistless than Thy tears.  
When upon the fatal tree  
Thou didst writhe in agony,  
Had that pain in triumph ended,  
Hadst Thou royally ascended,  
Less sublime had been Thy power  
Than Thy patience shone that hour.  
Lord! it is not ours to gaze  
On Thy works of ancient days;  
But Thy love, unchanged and bright,  
More than all those works of might,  
More than miracle and sign  
Makes us ever, ever Thine.

—Library of Religious Poetry.

## 1 Chronicles.

In response to a promise made to our beloved brother H. R. Holsinger to visit and preach in the vicinity of Sulphur Springs, Ind. I left home on the 9th inst., enroute for Oakville, the historic village, which was nearly entirely swept away by a terrific cyclone, April 1st, 1884, but now is nicely rebuilt. There being no train to Oakville said evening, and not expecting any one to meet me at Muncie, where I expected to change cars, I hired a livery rig and driver to convey me out, distance about 9 miles. Arrived in time for services. After services went home with brother Isaac Holsinger, with whom I met for the first time, and the acquaintance was agreeable indeed. Of him I learned that he had been to Muncie after me, but had by some means missed me. At brother Isaac's I also formed a pleasant acquaintance with his noble wife and family. Here I soon learned that sister Holsinger had committed a "great sin" against the church with which she had been identified, in that she wore an "ungodly" dress bonnet. When she was arraigned, she claimed that she got that permission from the man who baptized her, and she did not think that she did any wrong. So sister Holsinger had to go with the bonnet. Then brother Isaac had no more regard for the "order" than to go with the wife and bonnet. So they stood out in the cold. Then we too learned that brother David Teeter, formerly a "second degree" minister had brought "great condemnation" on himself by taking part with people of another denomination in a protracted meeting, and that he would not "confess," but withdrew and his wife went with him. Then there was Jacob Holsinger and wife, although, they were represented at the Dayton convention, they had not withdrawn from the G. B. church until brother Teeter got into trouble. So we found six of the best Christian people (for this was the verdict of the whole country) standing outside of

church relation for none other cause than those herein stated.

We met again, for services, and to form a better acquaintance with the people and circumstances in general. At 10 o'clock a. m. Sept. 10th, after talking matters over, and finding that the brethren were willing to form a nucleus at Oakville, and go to work in the Brethren cause, we met again at 2 o'clock p. m. and after a season of prayer, we read from the "Brethren's creed" the Bible and defined our position as a church and then said, all who are willing to meet us on that ground will please arise. Seven stood up. We then proceeded to set apart the different officers, this work was attended with much solemnity, the spectators even seemed to be considerably impressed.

Having organized, we now began to labor for accessions. On the 11th one name was handed in from the G. B. church. On the 12th a revival wavelet was felt through our congregation, and 2 came out and were baptized. By the evening of the 13th the waters had become considerably troubled, and sinners began to turn to God in earnest, and the congregation enlarged so that we had to seek more room, and so instead of occupying the lower half of the ware house, 20x50, as we had done, we went upstairs and occupied the whole room, 40x50, and so the work went on, and the Lord added to the church daily. Such as believed and desired, were baptized, and such as believed and desire to cast their membership with us from the G. B. church, and who had the courage to do so, did that, until the 24th, when by the ordinance of baptism the work closed. By this time the church had increased its number to three score souls. All seem to be in earnest for the heavenly land.

When we had pronounced the benediction at the house, preparatory to going to the brook to baptize, the young soldiers, composing the singing class, stood up and sang from the Choral Fountain, the hymn entitled, "Sad hour of parting." It is sad to part when we form a Christian attachment to each other, but it will be joyful to meet again in the heavenly world.

While at Oakville, I visited at Isaac Holsinger's, Turner Johnson's, Sister Veach's, Peter Oxleys, Jefferson Miller's, Jacob Metzker's, Sister Ofterdinger's, Jacob Zook's, 'Squire Jeremiah Holsinger's and Mr. Nixon's. All of whom are now members of the Brethren church excepting Mr. Nixon, whose wife and two daughters were baptized. Don't know why this kind hearted man did not also unite with the church. Yes, and there is brother Weber, who was raised in the Catholic faith, with his noble wife, Sally, formerly a member of the Hoversites, came and were baptized. And there is sister Ettie Hill. God bless Ettie for her courage, whose noble parents and other mem-

bers of the family belong to the Quaker church, also confessed the Lord and was baptized. Also visited a little at brother Jacob Sevain's, who with wife and daughter came to the Brethren from the G. B. church. And there is old brother Hale an Ex-Squire and Ex Methodist exhorter, with his wife and principle part of his family, joined the Christian band at Oakville. There too is old brother Swaine, whose hairs have been silvered by the frosts of seventy-five winters, is now a new born babe in Christ.

Should have been pleased to visit all the brethren but time forbade it. But I must not forget brother and sister Fleming, of the Christian church, whose hospitalities I shared. Brother Fleming is the merchant in Oakville and he furnished the house for us to hold meetings in, and gave us other encouragement. God bless him. When the German Baptists refused to let the Brethren use the house they helped to build, brother Fleming furnished the ware house for us to hold our services in.

The Brethren held a business meeting during the revival, and appointed a committee to locate the ground (which was done same day) to build a house of worship on, and a building committee was appointed to push the work to completion.

May the Lord bless the good people in around Oakville for their kindness.

Visited at brother David Teeter's and Jacob Holsinger's of Sulphur Springs, and preached in town evening of 24th, and set out for Bunker Hill on the 25th to meet my appointment.

J. H. SWIHART.

## West Independence, Ohio.

Sept. 28:—At the request of the Brethren of Meyersdale, Pa., I left my home in West Independence, Ohio, Sept 1st, for that place. Arrived in Terra Alta, W. Va., the 2nd. Visited Bro. John M. Freeland, and stopped over night with Bro. S. W. Wilt, who is holding the fort in "Old Preston." On the morning of the 3d, we left Terra Alta for Meyersdale, where we arrived at 4 P. M., was met at the train by Bro. Gnagy who took us to his home for supper, after which we went to Dr. Beachly's where we spent the night very pleasantly. The next day we were taken to Mechanicsburg, where we began a meeting in the evening, and continued for nine evenings, closing with communion, and the election of two Deacons. The immediate results of the meeting was three additions by baptism. Could we have continued the meeting longer we believe more would have followed. While at Mechanicsburg we made our home with Bro. John A. Miller, who treated us with much kindness. On Monday the 13th in company with Bro. Gnagy we went to Berlin, to attend the Brethren's S. S. Convention. Were met at the depot by Bros. Holsinger, Knepfer, Ransey and others. We are

glad to have had the pleasure of meeting so many of our beloved fraternity.

The Convention was a success. Bro. Holsinger, the moderator, deserves much credit for the able manner in which he conducted the exercises, and for the many "spicy" speeches which he made on the different subjects.

In the absence of Bro. Brown we were drafted by Bro Holsinger, to fill his place on the programme, Bro. H. saying that Ohio must take care of herself during the convention. We made our home with Bro. Holsinger, who treated us with much kindness, for which we return thanks.

On Thursday the 16th, we returned to Meyersdale and began a series of meetings there, but as our time was limited we only had the pleasure of preaching eight sermons at Meyersdale which resulted in two applicants for membership. We are sorry we could not stay longer as the interest grew better and the prospect brighter with each meeting. But the meeting did not close. It was left in the hands of Bro. Gnagy who will continue it as long as he thinks best. And we are hopeful of grand and glorious results.

During our stay at Meyersdale, the Brethren held a business meeting and elected three Deacons. We had our home with Dr. Beachly, and feel thankful to him and his kind family for their hospitality. We visited Bro. Olinger, Miller and others and taking it all together we are much pleased with our visit. Meyersdale, as a church, will ever have a warm place in our affections.

On Thursday 23d, we started for home where we arrived safely Friday evening; found all well for which we praise God.

Sunday 26th we preached in our home church, and tomorrow we go to Dayton, to visit our Bro. "James;" from there we go to Flora, Ind., where we will preach a few sermons and then go to Auburn, Ill., where we are engaged to assist in holding a three weeks' meeting.

A. M. RIDENOUR.

## Teegarden, Ind.

Sept. 27.—On the 19th inst., I went to Linkville to meet brother J. W. Fitzgerald. I stopped at La Paz and asked Bro. Abbott to accompany me, which he did. We expected to find brother Massena at his old home, but were disappointed, as he had moved on his farm, one half mile north east of the village. Bro. Fitzgerald proposed that we should go to see brother Massena which we did. We found his wife severely afflicted with neuralgia.

At early lamp lighting we went to the house of God, where after a short song service and prayer by Bro. Abbott, Elder Eitzgerald preached an excellent sermon from Micah, 6th chapter and 8th verse. Truly brother Fitzgerald is a workman that needeth not to be ashamed. His discourse was directed to the

members of the church, and was listened to with wrapt attention. His whole audience seemed intensely interested. I was especially pleased with the respect shown him by the young people. I am satisfied that there is a prospect for a revival in this church. Bro. Fitzgerald has the unbounded confidence of the people.

On Monday morning, the 20th inst., Bro. Fitzgerald accompanied me to the house of friend, Adam Longaker, about two miles north of La Paz, where we held a council meeting in the afternoon. We met Eld. David Ullery, of South Bend at La Paz, who had been written to by Bro. Fitzgerald, and requested to assist in this meeting, where the writer was ordained deacon, and the few scattered members organized into a sub-district, for the purpose of doing more effectual work in the cause of our divine Master. A secretary and treasurer were elected at this meeting, and Eld. David Ullery was chosen as our Elder. We ask the prayers of all our brethren and sisters for the prosperity of this class. May we all let our light shine and prove faithful to our calling.

Bro. Ullery returned to South Bend after this meeting, and Bro. Fitzgerald preached for us at night at the school house where we hold our meetings. His sermon was highly appreciated. May the Lord bless him abundantly.

JACOB ROTHENBERGER.

## Sherwood, Ohio.

We were sleeping soundly on the night of the 23rd of September, when, "at midnight, a cry was made" that awoke us out of our slumber. The sound was at the front door; we arose and opened the door and there stood Bro. J. H. Palmer and his wife, of Perry Co., O. They were on their way to the church at Silver Creek where they expect to remain one year. On Friday we had a very pleasant visit, talking on different subjects. He is good company. In the evening a congregation gathered at the U. B. Church at this place and Bro. Palmer entertained them by telling them the old, old story of Jesus and his love. We went away feeling that it was good to be there. Come again, Bro. Palmer, or any one else. We will give a good congregation with a few days notice.

ABRAHAM SHOE.

Sept. 29.

## Maurertown, Va.

Sept. 27.—At Laurel Hill, 15 miles from this place, I commenced a meeting which we continued one week. Results, 10 baptized. In this number ages ranged from 15 to 70 years. Closed Saturday evening with communion. Indeed this was a meeting long to linger on our memories, we parted conscious of the fact could the effort have been continued another week the work could have been duplicated.

Brethren, hold the fort for we are coming back again very soon if health permits.

E. B. SHAVER.